

Marine Life Protection Act Initiative



Goals and Regional Objectives for the MLPA North Coast Study Region

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Background

- The MLPA:
 - Identifies goals for the statewide marine protected area (MPA) network
 - Requires objectives for each MPA
- Per the Master Plan:
 - Goals and regional objectives are identified for each study region
 - Stakeholder involvement in crafting regional objectives is desirable
- Updated process to develop list of goals and objectives for north coast study region based on lessons learned



Regional Goals and Objectives

- **Goals** – Broad statements of intent and long-term vision
 - MLPA identifies six goals
- **Objectives** – More specific statements of intent that help achieve a goal
- **Regional Objectives** – Ways to accomplish MLPA goals in the study region
 - Must be realistically achievable through MPA design
 - Each MPA should contribute toward regional objectives for MLPA goals



Process to Develop List

- Started with regional goals and objectives adopted in previous study regions
- California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) generated select changes
- Overall, north coast regional objectives are consistent with previous study regions
- MLPA North Coast Regional Stakeholder Group (NCRSG) work group formed to collaborate with DFG to review comments from full NCRSG
- Final document will be shared with NCRSG for use in May work sessions and meeting



Other Categories for NCRSG Input

- **“Stakeholder Priorities and Objectives”**
 - New category created for north coast study region
 - Created to capture high priorities for the NCSR
- **Site-Specific Rationales**
 - Explanation of objectives for each MPA that accompanies proposals



Stakeholder Priorities and Objectives

- Stakeholder priorities and objectives are key social and local interests identified by the NCRSG, including:
 - socioeconomics
 - tribe and tribal community concerns
 - safe fishing zones near harbors
 - coastal community vitality
 - cooperative monitoring with local communities
- Desire to meet these interests while also meeting the MLPA goals
 - not at the expense of meeting the goals
- Inform MPA management
- Not intended to be a comprehensive list

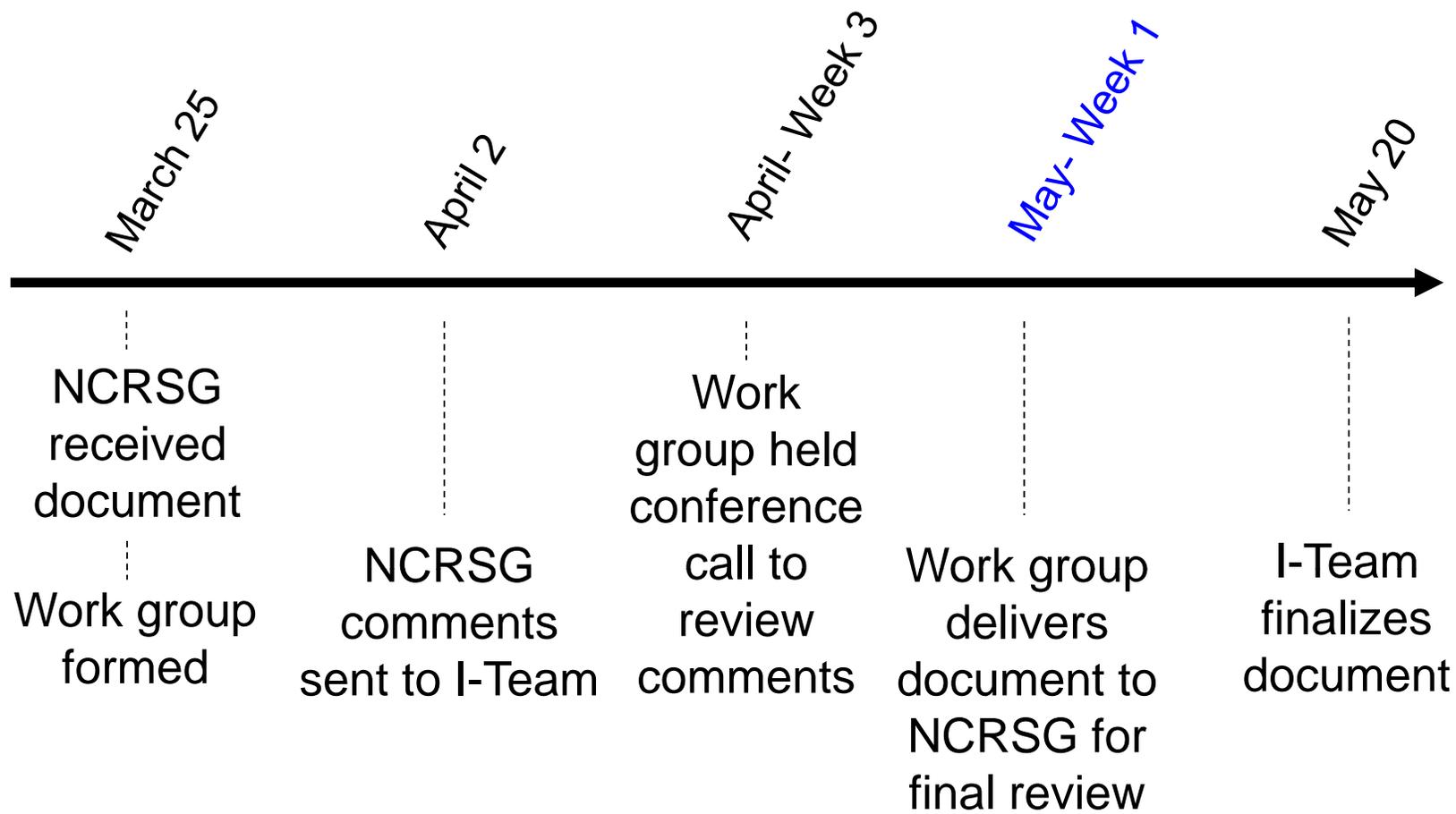


Site-Specific Rationales

- Site-Specific Rationales  MPA-specific objectives
 - Narratives that **simply and succinctly** explain why an area is important to protect
 - Should link directly to regional objective(s)
 - May give more specific explanation of “how” this site would meet a regional objective
 - May highlight relevant stakeholder priorities and objectives or other considerations that affect design
 - Critical record to inform future monitoring plans and management choices



North Coast G&O Timeline





Round 2 DFG Guidance

- For Round 2 proposals, the NCRSG:
 - Selects appropriate goals for each MPA
 - Drafts site-specific rationales (including stakeholder priorities and objectives)
- After Round 2 proposals are completed, NCRSG subteams will work with DFG to:
 - Review goals identified based on MPA design
 - Select objectives based on site-specific rationales and MLPA goals
 - Full gems work groups will review product



DFG Evaluation of MPA Proposals

- DFG will provide real-time guidance to NCRSG during MPA design process
- DFG will evaluate proposals based on appropriateness of selected MPA goals (part of feasibility evaluation)
- DFG will give the groups feedback for Round 3 improvements